

Name _____

- ☐ First time guest
- ☐ Returning guest
- ☐ Interested in baptism or membership
- ☐ Member

New Contact Information

Phone _____

Email _____

Address _____

Ministry Area Teams

We are trying to build Five Ministry Area Teams. Please mark down if you are interested in being a part of one, or any of these teams. These teams will be setting specific goals for their area.

- ☐ **ADMINISTRATION** : Property management, grounds keeping, endowment management, staff evaluations, offering counting, etc.
- ☐ **WORSHIP** : Music ministries, sermon series development, visual arts, sanctuary decor, audio/visual, Live Feed, translation devices.
- ☐ **SERVICE** : Meal site, advocacy programs, little free pantry, clothes drives, coat ministry.
- ☐ **CONNECTION** : Greeters and ushers, hospitality in worship, “We Care” gifts, visitation, grief care, letters to inactive members
- ☐ **DISCIPLESHIP** : Adult Bible studies, Sunday school, book club, youth ministry, baptism and member classes.



RECONCILING MINISTRIES NETWORK

From the beginning of the Jesus movement, followers of Christ declared that there is no Jew or Greek, no slave or free, nor is there male and female. We, the people of Two Rivers United Methodist Church join in this movement of the Holy Spirit and declare that we celebrate the diversity of our neighborhood and the world.

We welcome and affirm people of every gender identity, gender expression, and sexual and affectional orientation, who are also of every age, race, ethnicity, physical and mental ability, level of education, family structure, and of every economic, immigration, marital, and social status, and so much more. We believe that the body of Christ is more vital in its ministry when the whole diversity of the human family may enjoy full participation and leadership in the Church.

We welcome all who have known the pain of exclusion or discrimination in the Church and society, and acknowledge the pain caused by the history of exclusionary policies of the United Methodist Church. We will continue to work toward a more inclusive Church and invite you to join us in following Jesus Christ on the Way, marked by greater hospitality, kindness, justice, peace, understanding, and mutual respect.

Announcements for August 16, 2026

Swahili Sunday School - 10:45 am Asbury Parlor
Kids & Youth Sunday School - 10:45 am Nursery

Discipleship Schedule Monday Bible Study meets at noon in Epworth Hall. Wednesday Prayer & Devotion Time meets on Facebook Live and Zoom at noon every week. Zoom Meeting ID # for Wednesday is 961 006 728. The Zoom meeting can also be joined by phone simply by dialing 312-626-6799. Once connected, dial the Meeting ID # 961 006 728, and you will join in the conversation.

Weeknight Study An adult education night on Tuesdays at 6:00 p.m., on August 4, 11, 18, 25, and September 1. The topic will be Marcus Borg’s “Embracing an Adult Faith.” This is a five-part study that has a paperback book and DVD portion. This is a chance to confront some big, and sometimes painful, questions about faith. What is salvation? Why does Jesus matter today? These are the kind of “keep me up at night” questions that we will dig into as a group. Participants do not need to purchase the book, but we can make a group order if you are interested. It is available on Cokesbury for \$17.99 and can be found used at various book sellers for closer to \$12.

Two Rivers Music Ministries Mark Swessinger has graciously agreed to step in on an interim basis as our Music Director until we can find someone to fill the position permanently. He would like to have a general music ministries meeting with all Sanctuary and Handbell choir members and potential members on **Wednesday August 19 at 6:30pm** in the choir room to discuss his role as interim and what the beginning of the choir year will look like.

Guest Wifi



Online Giving



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August 16, 2026
The Twelfth Sunday After Pentecost
Isaiah 11:1-9

A shoot will grow up from the stump of Jesse;

a branch will sprout from his roots.

The Lord's spirit will rest upon him,

a spirit of wisdom and understanding,

a spirit of planning and strength,

a spirit of knowledge and fear of the Lord.

He will delight in fearing the Lord.

He won't judge by appearances,

nor decide by hearsay.

He will judge the needy with righteousness,

and decide with equity for those who suffer in the land.

He will strike the violent with the rod of his mouth;

by the breath of his lips he will kill the wicked.

Righteousness will be the belt around his hips,

and faithfulness the belt around his waist.

The wolf will live with the lamb,

and the leopard will lie down with the young goat;

the calf and the young lion will feed together,

and a little child will lead them.

The cow and the bear will graze.

Their young will lie down together,

and a lion will eat straw like an ox.

A nursing child will play over the snake's hole;

toddlers will reach right over the serpent's den.

They won't harm or destroy anywhere on my holy mountain.

The earth will surely be filled with the knowledge of the Lord,
just as the water covers the sea.

GATHERING TO HEAR THE GOOD NEWS

PRELUDE

GREETING

*CALL TO WORSHIP (adapted from Isaiah 6)

One: The stage has been set and the plot is taking shape. We have been introduced to the cast of characters, and our hero has a vision.

All: **“I saw the Lord sitting on a high and exalted throne, the edges of his robe filling the Temple... They shouted to each other saying ‘Holy, Holy, Holy is the Lord of Heavenly forces. All the earth is filled with God’s glory.’”**

One: He is troubled by the vision. He is not ready for a task such as this

All: **“I’m ruined,” he shouts. “I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people with unclean lips...”**

One: The tension mounts. Silence is thick and the stage is dark as a heavenly seraph brings a coal to touch our hero's lips. The music ascends and the lights are bright. He is made clean and summoned to action.

All: **And the prophet declares “I’m here. Send me”**

*HYMN #128 UMH “He Leadeth Me” vs. 1, 2, 4

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All: The Prophet Isaiah makes it clear that we have fallen short of God’s call upon our lives. Our leaders lack the will to do what is right. The powerful care only about profit, do not act justly, and use their influence to extract more power. The people suffer and turn to idols for distraction and a false sense of security. Forgive us for our complicit obedience in this unjust world. Help us to listen to the artists and the poets who tell stories of hope and sing songs of liberation. Send your Spirit of grace upon us. Sanctify this time of worship so that we may be transformed. Forgive us and prepare us for an eternal, meaningful, and grace-filled life.

Pause for silent confession and reflection

One: Thus says the Lord: “Though your sins are like scarlet, they will be white as snow.... All who change their lives will be redeemed.” In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

All: **In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Amen.**

*PASSING THE PEACE

PRAYER SONG #2193 FWS “Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying”

PASTORAL PRAYER LORD’S PRAYER

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

PROCLAIMING THE GOOD NEWS

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

All: Holy Spirit, speak through the Prophet Isaiah that your light may break upon us. Open our hearts to hear your promise of justice, mercy, and a world made new. Amen

SCRIPTURE - Isaiah 11:1-9 (CEB)

MUSICAL OFFERING "The Impossible Dream” sung by Mark Swessinger

SERMON *The Prophetic Imagination of Don Quixote* - Rev. Robb McCoy

RESPONDING TO THE GOOD NEWS

RESPONSE HYMN #730 UMH “O Day of God Draw Nigh” vs. 1-3 & 5

*OFFERTORY #2236 FWS “Gather Us In” (vs. 1-2)

All are invited to place your offering and the detached part of the bulletin in the offering basin at the front as we sing

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

All: God of Justice and Compassion, we thank you for the Prophet Isaiah whose words help make a way in the wilderness. We thank you for stories and songs that enliven your gospel, and for the prophetic imagination of artists who help us see your Kingdom.

We thank you for prophets and dreamers who are windmill chasers and never give up on a world that could be better. We thank you for impossible dreams like wolves and lambs grazing together. You give us the strength to face the unbeatable foe, bear the unbearable sorrow, and the courage to run where no one would dare. And so...

We offer you this gift as a sign of thanks for the stories that empower, the songs that inspire, and for the good news that is offered to all. Use this gift to strengthen this house of God, where there is room enough for all. Amen.

*DOXOLOGY #94 UMH

*BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

POSTLUDE

**=please rise if you are able*

*UMH = United Methodist Hymnal (red book) FWS = Faith We Sing (black book).
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PRAYERS FOR THE WEEK August 16, 2026

Your Name_____

Prayers for our Church and its ministry:

Prayers for people I know:

☐ I have permission to publish this prayer.

☐ I do not have permission to publish this prayer.

Prayers for the community/world:

Prayers for myself:
